

Secret Culture, Public Lives: Slavery in the Colonial Chesapeake



Workshop Schedule

Workshop schedule and activities

(Schedule is tentative and subject to change)

July 20-25, 2014 or August 3-8, 2014

This workshop will provide participants with historical content knowledge about slavery in the colonial Chesapeake and will support the development of effective teaching practices and resources for use in the classroom. Please be aware that some sessions (namely hearth cooking) will take place in non-climate controlled buildings. A moderate amount of walking will be done on site visits to Historic Annapolis, Sotterley Plantation and Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Please notify Lisa Robbins, Project Director of special accommodations you may need.

- In-depth lectures and presentations by scholars and experts in the field will give teachers the opportunity to learn about the topics in-depth and increase their comfort level with the material.
- On-site visits to and works sessions at Historic London Town and Gardens, the Maryland State Archives, Historic Annapolis, the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, and Sotterley Plantation will give NEH Summer Scholars unrestricted access to historic buildings, archives, and collections, while revealing different ways to access and interpret history.
- "Hands on History" will challenge NEH Summer Scholars with using and incorporating different teaching methods into their classroom. Sessions will include hearth cooking, artifact analysis, first person interpretive performances, and storytelling.
- Work sessions will allow NEH Summer Scholars to collaborate and create lesson plans with the guidance of the resource teacher.
- Assigned and recommended readings will expand the NEH Summer Scholar knowledge and understanding of slavery in the 18th century Chesapeake. The readings will prepare you for the themes covered in the workshop and represent a variety of historical perspectives.

Workshop

Schedule

Readings

Final Projects





Daily Schedule

Sunday

NEH Summer Scholars will check in to the hotel any time that day, registration will be open 12:00 – 5:00pm. The bus will meet participants at the hotel at 5:00 to go to Historic London Town and Gardens. During 5:15 pm to 6:30 pm there will be a welcome, introductions and overview of workshop activities and participant expectations and a tour of Historic London Town and Gardens. 6:30 pm till 8:30 pm will be a traditional Maryland Crab Feast (hosted by the Board of Trustees, Historic London Town and Gardens) for all participants and faculty to get to know one another. The bus will depart London Town at 8:30 pm.

Monday

Theme: The Tobacco Economy of Maryland and the Development of the Slave Labor System in the Chesapeake Region

The day's lectures will set the historical stage, so to speak. The day will begin with a lecture by **Dr. Lorena Walsh**, leading scholar and co-creator of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database; detailing the history and implications of slavery as well as the number of slaves imported to the Chesapeake. By focusing on the trans-Atlantic and inter-colonial slave trades to Maryland, Dr. Walsh will also explore the regional differences of importation practices in the Chesapeake and how these differences can be gleaned from historic documents ranging from inventories to ship logs.

In the afternoon, **Ryan Cox and Chris Haley**, archivists from the Maryland State Archives (MSA), will trace the evolution of legislation regarding slavery in Maryland and Virginia during the 18th century. MSA archivists will also trace the creation of Maryland as a colony and the role the tobacco economy had in not only forming the colony but London Town itself. The archivists will then lead a work session which will provide the foundation of historical content relating to slavery in the colonial Chesapeake. The teachers will become familiarized with primary sources and databases available on the MSA website, thus allowing the teachers resources upon which the week's lectures will reference. The MSA online archives will be repeatedly accessed throughout the week as they learn more about the cultural context provided by the rest of the lectures.

These lectures will be followed by a curriculum session led by the Resource Teacher. The day will conclude with a tour of historic Annapolis offering a comparative analysis between tobacco seaports in the Chesapeake.

8:15 am—Bus leaves Double Tree Hotel

8:30 am—teachers arrive at London Town

8:30 – 8:45 orientation and explanation of daily expectations, orientation to site, introduction of staff members.

8:45 – 9:20 Review of slavery at London Town, recent research and slave biographies

9:20 – 9:30 Break

9:30 – 11:30 — Dr. Lorena Walsh lecture and discussion period

11:30— 12:00 – Introduction of the Trans Atlantic Slave Voyage Database

12: 00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 Maryland State Archives (MSA) Lecture by Ryan Cox and Tanner Sparks,

Research Archivists, Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives

- **For the Record: Using Primary Sources to Study Money, Labor and the History of Tobacco and Slavery in Maryland**
In this presentation, professional research archivists from the Maryland State Archives will look at the growth of tobacco as the staple crop for the Chesapeake, and the growth of the institute of slavery that laborer harvesting the weed. The participants will also consider the laws passed in the General Assembly that regulated and controlled both the crop and the laborers by utilizing the primary records found at Maryland State Archives.

2:30 – 4:00 Exploration of MSA online documents, case study on how to write a biography.

4:00 – 5:00 Tour of Annapolis

5:00 – return to hotel

Tuesday

Theme: Hearth Cooking and using foodways as a means for cultural and identity preservation

Participants will gather at Historic London Town and Gardens for an introduction and brief discussion on foodways.

Michael Twitty, food historian and expert on foodways of Afro-Marylanders will lead teachers through a morning hands-on history workshop in which they will hearth cook traditional African and enslaved African dishes in the reconstructed Lord Mayor's Tenement at London Town. Since the Tenement is limited in size, the overall group will be divided into two groups. While one is cooking with Michael Twitty, the other will be with **Dr. Psyche Williams-Forsen** who will lecture on how food and cooking is an essential part of cultural formation and an expression of power utilized by African American cooks. The groups will switch, so that each group has the opportunity to cook a portion of the meal. Through this hands-on history session of hearth cooking, participants will be exposed to some of the daily experiences enslaved women and cooks may have experienced during the 18th century. These points of reference will enhance the teachers understanding and contextual knowledge as they continue their primary source research. After a communal meal of all participants, faculty and staff, the day will continue with Dr. Philip Morgan's lecture "The Lives of Enslaved People."

8:15 am—Bus leaves Double Tree Hotel

8:30—Teachers arrive at London Town

8:30 – 8:45 Introduction for the day and divide the teachers into 2 groups

8:45—10:30 Group A in Lord Mayor's Tenement, hearth cooking with **Michael Twitty**. Group B lecture and discussion period with **Dr. Psyche Williams-Forsen**

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:30 Group A lecture and discussion period with Dr. Psyche Williams-Forsen. Group B Hearth Cooking with Michael Twitty

12:30 – 1:45 Lunch

1:45 – 3:30 **Dr. Phillip Morgan**—author of *Slave Counterpoint*, will lead a lecture on black culture in the 18th century Chesapeake, in which he will range over such topics as material life, work patterns, familial experiences, and spiritual practices.

3:30 – 3:45 break

3:45 – 5:15 lecture and discussion period with **Chris Haley**, Director of Center for the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland at the Maryland State Archives

- **The Flight to Freedom: Use of Primary Sources in Shaping Our Understanding of Slave Identity and Culture** For over 10 years, the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland program has used census records, contemporary newspapers, probate records, court papers, land records, pardon dockets, jail records, and other primary source documents to

study the community of slaves and free blacks in Maryland. Mr. Chris Haley, project director, will discuss how these records are used to create case studies of individual slaves using record material available in the Archives. Special focus will be given to those who attempted to flee the institution of slavery, and the use of newspaper runaway ads to explore the individual appearance, clothing, skills, and kinship ties of the slaves.

5:15 Bus leaves London Town to take teachers back to hotel

Wednesday

Theme: Material Culture: The substance behind the shadowy ink of historical documents

Dr. Patricia Samford will present her latest research comparing slave sites of the lower Tidewater of Virginia (the area surrounding Williamsburg) and the upper Chesapeake (Maryland). Dr. Samford will explore the differences in the archaeology in these two geographically close areas, who some consider to be the same region. This lecture will examine how distributions of African cultures affected the development of colonial culture in different portions of the Chesapeake. Particular attention will be paid to work patterns, spirituality, gender roles, material culture, foodways, and the built environment.

Jeanne Pirtle, Education Director at Sotterley Plantation, will lead a three hour workshop focusing on slavery and the enslaved from 1699-1775 specific to Sotterley Plantation and the Chesapeake region in Maryland. Participants will learn the research strategies and tools used to uncover Sotterley's story and history through primary documentation, and then be able to transfer these same strategies to the classroom to develop lessons using primary documents. Breaking into small groups, participants will develop classroom lesson activities based on a specific type of primary document, then share with the entire group. Participants will also take an interactive tour of the plantation with a concentration on the Colonial period.

7:30 Bus leaves Hotel

9:00 Teachers arrive MAC Lab

9:00 – 10:45 **Dr. Patricia Samford** lecture on African American Archaeology and evidence of spirituality in material culture

10:45 – 11:30 – artifact analysis with MAC Lab collections

11:30 – 12:30—visit archaeological excavation of 18th century plantation at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum

12:30 – 2:30 lunch break and drive to Sotterley Plantation

2:30 – 5:30 Tour of Sotterley Plantation and Primary Source Workshop dealing with documents from the 18th century plantation and ship logs. **Ms. Pirtle** will lead participants through the research process done to uncover the intricate history of one of the most prosperous tobacco plantations in southern Maryland.

5:30—Leave Sotterley Plantation

7:00 -- return to Hotel

Thursday

Theme: *Community Building and Creating an African American Culture*

**** Due to space constraints we will divide into two groups for the day. Group 1 will begin their day at the Maryland State Archives, Group 2 will begin their day at Historic Annapolis. After lunch, Group I will begin the afternoon at Historic Annapolis and Group II will be at Maryland State Archives****

8:15 Bus departs Hotel

8:30 Participants arrive at Maryland State Archives/Historic Annapolis

8:30 – 11:30

- Group I: **Chris Haley** and Center for the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland
- *Documents in the Classroom with the Maryland State Archives* Participants will visit the Maryland State Archives searchroom to engage in a hands-on session with primary source documents led by professional archivists. Maryland State Archives staff will provide an overview of available resources and in-depth training in the use of online catalogs and finding aids allowing the teachers to explore the collections of the Archives. The object of this session will encourage you to think about using primary sources within your own lesson plans. You will be given the opportunity to search for individual documents that fit your specific classroom needs and take home images of primary source materials that can be used directly with your students all while receiving professional guidance by the Maryland State Archives staff.
- Group II:
- 8:30 – 10:00-- Dr. Jean Russo lecture *Building Communities: Challenges and Possibilities*. Dr. Russo will first provide an overview of the demography of slaveholdings, to provide a baseline understanding of the range of possibilities for community building, a function of both location and size. Using primary documents and case studies, participants will consider the ways in which enslaved people might forge family and community networks and share knowledge of those networks from generation to generation. Documents will include inventories, wills, advertisements for sales, lists of taxables, and court records.
- 10:00 – 11:30: *Project Run-A-Way* and *Freedom Bound*. Historic Annapolis is in the midst of a multiphase project to document and interpret the lives of runaway servants and slaves whose escape attempts were publicized in the *Maryland Gazette*. The historic preservation and education group brings to life a few of those many stories through the living history production *Project Run-A-Way* and the museum exhibit *Freedom Bound: Runaways of the Chesapeake*.

11:30 – 1:30 – Lunch Break and walk to Historic Annapolis/Maryland State Archives for afternoon sessions.

1:30 – 4:30

- Group I
- 1:30 – 3:00 Dr. Jean Russo lecture *Building Communities: Challenges and Possibilities*
- 3:00 – 4:30 *Project Run-A-Way* and *Freedom Bound* exhibit
- Group II
- 1:30 – 4:30 Maryland State Archives

4:30 – 5:30 Resource Teacher Work session—incorporating hands-on history into classrooms with limited resources and funding.

5:30 – Return to Hotel

Friday

Theme: Bringing the Past to Life Again: Storytelling and Interpretation

8:15 am Bus depart hotel

8:30 Participants arrive at London Town

8:30 – 8:45 Introduction and Orientation for day

8:45 – 12:00 Storytelling and folklore workshop with **Dylan Pritchett** -- Storytelling: Classroom History! which will examine:

- How to analyze historical, primary documents to extract teaching opportunities.
- How to organize historical information in creating a story that teaches history.
- Guiding the teachers in the development of stories that focus on the current level of understanding of the historical period, i.e. elementary, middle and high school.
- Storytelling techniques (voice, body movements, etc.) to help teachers enhance historical stories.
- Presenting the story! Done in small groups.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 – Kym Rice "The struggle to interpret and present slavery in American history museums and historic sites."

- Successful examples that have engaged stakeholder groups and descendant communities and grappled with tough issues include Phillipsburg Manor (Historic Hudson Valley), Somerset Plantation in Creswell, North Carolina, and the "Getting Word" project at Monticello.

2:30 – 3:15 Workshop review with NEH Program Officer

3:15 --5:00 How do you teach about slavery. What has worked? What has been a challenge? How will topics and information you have learned at this workshop influence your teaching and your final project? Participants will present their idea for their Historical Investigation.

5:00-- Return to Hotel

Dr. Philip Morgan—author of *Slave Counterpoint*, will lead a lecture on black culture in the 18th-century Chesapeake, in which he will range over such topics as material life, work patterns, familial experiences, and spiritual practices



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